Senate File 368 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 368 BY ROZENBOOM

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to the redemption of and payment of refund
- value on beverage containers, making appropriations,
- 3 providing penalties, and including effective date
- 4 provisions.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 DIVISION I

- 2 FUTURE CHANGES TO CURRENT BEVERAGE CONTAINER CONTROL LAW
- Section 1. Section 455C.1, subsections 1 and 6, Code 2021,
- 4 are amended to read as follows:
- 5 1. "Beverage" means wine as defined in section 123.3,
- 6 subsection 54, alcoholic liquor as defined in section 123.3,
- 7 subsection 5, beer as defined in section 123.3, subsection
- 8 7, high alcoholic content beer as defined in section 123.3,
- 9 subsection 22, canned cocktail as defined in section 123.3,
- 10 subsection 11, mineral water, soda water, and similar
- 11 carbonated soft drinks in liquid form and intended for human
- 12 consumption.
- 13 6. "Dealer agent" means a person who solicits or picks
- 14 up empty beverage containers from a participating dealer for
- 15 the purpose of returning the empty beverage containers to a
- 16 distributor or manufacturer.
- 17 Sec. 2. Section 455C.1, Code 2021, is amended by adding the
- 18 following new subsection:
- 19 NEW SUBSECTION. 12A. "Participating dealer" means a dealer
- 20 who accepts the return of empty beverage containers from a
- 21 consumer.
- Sec. 3. Section 455C.2, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 23 follows:
- 24 455C.2 Refund values.
- 25 l. A refund value of not less than five cents shall be paid
- 26 by the consumer on each beverage container sold in this state
- 27 by a dealer for consumption off the premises. Upon return of
- 28 the empty beverage container upon which a refund value has
- 29 been paid to the a participating dealer or person operating
- 30 a redemption center and acceptance of the empty beverage
- 31 container by the participating dealer or person operating a
- 32 redemption center, the participating dealer or person operating
- 33 $\ensuremath{\mathtt{a}}$ redemption center shall return the amount of the refund value
- 34 to the consumer.
- 35 2. In addition to the refund value provided in subsection 1

- 1 of this section, a participating dealer, or person operating a
- 2 redemption center, who redeems empty beverage containers or a
- 3 dealer agent shall be reimbursed by the distributor required
- 4 to accept the empty beverage containers pursuant to section
- 5 455C.11 an amount which that is one cent per container. A
- 6 dealer, dealer agent, or person operating a redemption center
- 7 may compact empty metal beverage containers with the approval
- 8 of the distributor required to accept the containers.
- 9 Sec. 4. Section 455C.3, subsections 1, 2, and 4, Code 2021,
- 10 are amended to read as follows:
- 11 1. A participating dealer shall not refuse to accept from
- 12 a consumer any empty beverage container of the kind, size and
- 13 brand sold by the participating dealer, or refuse to pay to the
- 14 consumer the refund value of a beverage container as provided
- 15 under section 455C.2.
- 16 2. A distributor shall accept and pick up from a
- 17 participating dealer served by the distributor or a redemption
- 18 center for a dealer served by the distributor at least weekly,
- 19 or when the distributor delivers the beverage product if
- 20 deliveries are less frequent than weekly, any empty beverage
- 21 container of the kind, size, and brand sold by the distributor,
- 22 and shall pay to the participating dealer or person operating
- 23 a redemption center the refund value of a beverage container
- 24 and the reimbursement as provided under section 455C.2 within
- 25 one week following pickup of the containers or when the
- 26 participating dealer or redemption center normally pays the
- 27 distributor for the deposit on beverage products purchased from
- 28 the distributor if less frequent than weekly. A distributor
- 29 or employee or agent of a distributor is not in violation
- 30 of this subsection if a redemption center is closed when the
- 31 distributor attempts to make a regular delivery or a regular
- 32 pickup of empty beverage containers. This subsection does
- 33 not apply to a distributor selling alcoholic liquor to the
- 34 alcoholic beverages division of the department of commerce.
- 35 4. A distributor shall accept from a dealer agent any empty

- 1 beverage container of the kind, size, and brand sold by the
- 2 distributor and which that was picked up by the dealer agent
- 3 from a participating dealer within the geographic territory
- 4 served by the distributor and the distributor shall pay the
- 5 dealer agent the refund value of the empty beverage container
- 6 and the reimbursement as provided in section 455C.2.
- 7 Sec. 5. Section 455C.4, Code 2021, is amended to read as 8 follows:
- 9 455C.4 Refusal to accept containers.
- 10 1. Except as provided in section 455C.5, subsection 3,
- 11 a participating dealer, a person operating a or redemption
- 12 center, a distributor or a manufacturer may refuse to accept
- 13 any empty beverage container which that does not have stated on
- 14 it a refund value as provided under section 455C.2.
- 15 2. A dealer may refuse to accept and to pay the refund value
- 16 of any empty beverage container if the place of business of the
- 17 dealer and the kind and brand of empty beverage containers are
- 18 included in an order of the department approving a redemption
- 19 center under section 455C.6 if a redemption center is located
- 20 within a twenty-mile radius of the dealer.
- 21 3. A dealer or a distributor may refuse to accept and to pay
- 22 the refund value of an empty wine or alcoholic liquor container
- 23 which is marked to indicate that it was sold by a state liquor
- 24 store. The alcoholic beverages division shall not reimburse
- 25 a dealer or a distributor the refund value on an empty wine or
- 26 alcoholic liquor container which is marked to indicate that the
- 27 container was sold by a state liquor store.
- 28 4. 3. A class "E" liquor control licensee may refuse to
- 29 accept and to pay the refund value on an empty alcoholic liquor
- 30 container from a participating dealer or a redemption center
- 31 or from a person acting on behalf of or who has received empty
- 32 alcoholic liquor containers from a participating dealer or a
- 33 redemption center.
- 34 5. 4. A manufacturer or distributor may refuse to accept
- 35 and to pay the refund value and reimbursement as provided in

- 1 section 455C.2 on any empty beverage container that was picked
- 2 up by a dealer agent from a participating dealer outside the
- 3 geographic territory served by the manufacturer or distributor.
- 4 Sec. 6. Section 455C.5, subsection 1, Code 2021, is amended
- 5 to read as follows:
- 6 l. Each beverage container sold or offered for sale in
- 7 this state by a dealer shall clearly indicate the refund value
- 8 of the container by embossing or by a stamp, label, or other
- 9 method securely affixed to the container, the refund value of
- 10 the container. The department shall specify, by rule, the
- 11 minimum size of the refund value indication on the beverage
- 12 containers.
- 13 Sec. 7. Section 455C.12, subsection 2, Code 2021, is amended
- 14 to read as follows:
- 2. A distributor who collects or attempts to collect
- 16 a refund value on an empty beverage container when the
- 17 distributor has paid the refund value on the container to a
- 18 participating dealer, redemption center, or consumer is quilty
- 19 of a fraudulent practice.
- Sec. 8. Section 455C.12, subsection 3, paragraphs a and b,
- 21 Code 2021, are amended to read as follows:
- 22 a. Collects or attempts to collect the refund value on the
- 23 container a second time, with the knowledge that the refund
- 24 value has once been paid by the distributor to a participating
- 25 dealer, redemption center, or consumer.
- 26 b. Manufactures, sells, possesses, or applies a false or
- 27 counterfeit label or indication which that shows or purports to
- 28 show a refund value for a beverage container, with intent to
- 29 use the false or counterfeit label or indication.
- 30 Sec. 9. Section 455C.13, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 31 follows:
- 32 455C.13 Distributors' Collection and disposal agreements
- 33 authorized.
- 34 1. A distributor, dealer, or redemption center may enter
- 35 into a contract or agreement with any other distributor,

- 1 manufacturer, or person for the purpose of collecting or paying
- 2 the refund value on, or disposing of, beverage containers as
- 3 provided in this chapter.
- 4 2. For purposes of this chapter, any contracts entered into
- 5 pursuant to this section for the collection or disposal of
- 6 empty beverage containers shall not be deemed to interfere with
- 7 the refund value pursuant to section 455C.2.
- 8 Sec. 10. Section 455C.14, subsection 1, Code 2021, is
- 9 amended to read as follows:
- 10 1. If the refund value indication required under section
- 11 455C.5 on an empty nonrefillable metal beverage container
- 12 is readable but the redemption of the container is lawfully
- 13 refused by a participating dealer or person operating a
- 14 redemption center under other sections of this chapter or
- 15 rules adopted pursuant to these sections, the container
- 16 shall be accepted and the refund value paid to a consumer
- 17 as provided in this section. Each beer distributor selling
- 18 nonrefillable metal beverage containers in this state shall
- 19 provide individually or collectively by contract or agreement
- 20 with a dealer, person operating a redemption center, or another
- 21 person, at least one facility in the county seat of each county
- 22 where refused empty nonrefillable metal beverage containers
- 23 having a readable refund value indication as required by
- 24 this chapter are accepted and redeemed. In cities having a
- 25 population of twenty-five thousand or more, the number of the
- 26 facilities provided shall be one for each twenty-five thousand
- 27 population or a fractional part of that population.
- 28 Sec. 11. Section 455C.16, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 29 follows:
- 30 455C.16 Beverage containers disposal at sanitary landfill
- 31 prohibited.
- 32 Beginning July 1, 1990, the The final disposal of beverage
- 33 containers by a dealer, distributor, or manufacturer, or
- 34 person operating a redemption center, in a sanitary landfill,
- 35 is prohibited. Beginning September 1, 1992, including the

- 1 final disposal of beverage containers that used to contain
- 2 alcoholic liquor as defined in section 123.3, subsection 5,
- 3 by a participating dealer, distributor, or manufacturer, or
- 4 person operating a redemption center in a sanitary landfill,
- 5 is prohibited.
- 6 Sec. 12. EFFECTIVE DATE. This division of this Act takes
- 7 effect July 1, 2022.
- 8 DIVISION II
- 9 REPEAL OF CURRENT BEVERAGE CONTAINER CONTROL LAW
- 10 Sec. 13. Section 123.24, subsection 2, paragraph d, Code
- 11 2021, is amended to read as follows:
- 12 d. A bottle surcharge in an amount sufficient, when
- 13 added to the amount not refunded to class "E" liquor control
- 14 licensees pursuant to section 455C.2, to pay the costs incurred
- 15 by the division for collecting and properly disposing of the
- 16 liquor containers. The amount collected pursuant to this
- 17 paragraph, in addition to any amounts not refunded to class "E"
- 18 liquor control licensees pursuant to section 455C.2, shall be
- 19 deposited in the beer and liquor control fund established under
- 20 section 123.17.
- 21 Sec. 14. Section 123.26, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 22 follows:
- 23 123.26 Restrictions on sales seals labeling.
- 24 Alcoholic liquor shall not be sold by a class "E" liquor
- 25 control licensee except in a sealed container with identifying
- 26 markers as prescribed by the administrator and affixed in the
- 27 manner prescribed by the administrator, and no such container
- 28 shall be opened upon the premises of a state warehouse. The
- 29 division shall cooperate with the department of natural
- 30 resources so that only one identifying marker or mark is needed
- 31 to satisfy the requirements of this section and section 455C.5,
- 32 subsection 1. Possession of alcoholic liquors which that do
- 33 not carry the prescribed identifying markers is a violation of
- 34 this chapter except as provided in section 123.22.
- 35 Sec. 15. Section 123.187, subsection 3, paragraph e, Code

- 1 2021, is amended by striking the paragraph.
- 2 Sec. 16. Section 423.6, subsection 3, paragraph a, Code
- 3 2021, is amended to read as follows:
- 4 a. Any tangible personal property including containers
- 5 for which it is intended shall, by means of fabrication,
- 6 compounding, manufacturing, or germination, become an integral
- 7 part of other tangible personal property intended to be sold
- 8 ultimately at retail, and containers used in the collection,
- 9 recovery, or return of empty beverage containers subject to
- 10 chapter 455C.
- 11 Sec. 17. Section 455A.4, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code
- 12 2021, is amended to read as follows:
- b. Provide overall supervision, direction, and coordination
- 14 of functions to be administered by the administrators under
- 15 chapters 321G, 321I, 455B, 455C, 456A, 456B, 457A, 458A, 459,
- 16 459A, 459B, 461A, 462A, 462B, 464A, 465C, 473, 481A, 481B,
- 17 483A, 484A, and 484B.
- 18 Sec. 18. Section 455A.6, subsection 6, paragraphs a, b, and
- 19 d, Code 2021, are amended to read as follows:
- 20 a. Establish policy for the department and adopt rules,
- 21 pursuant to chapter 17A, necessary to provide for the effective
- 22 administration of chapter 455B, 455C, or 459.
- 23 b. Hear appeals in contested cases pursuant to chapter 17A
- 24 on matters relating to actions taken by the director under
- 25 chapter 455C, 458A, 464B, or 473.
- 26 d. Approve the budget request prepared by the director
- 27 for the programs authorized by chapters 455B, 455C, 455E,
- 28 455F, 455H, and 459, subchapters II and III. The commission
- 29 shall approve the budget request prepared by the director for
- 30 programs subject to the rulemaking authority of the commission.
- 31 The commission may increase, decrease, or strike any item
- 32 within the department budget request for the specified programs
- 33 before granting approval.
- 34 Sec. 19. Section 455B.313, subsection 1, Code 2021, is
- 35 amended to read as follows:

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- 1 1. A distributor as defined in section 455C.1, subsection
- 2 9 shall not sell or offer to sell any beverage container
- 3 if the beverage container is connected to another beverage
- 4 container by a device constructed of a material which that is
- 5 not biodegradable or photodegradable.
- 6 Sec. 20. Section 455B.313, Code 2021, is amended by adding
- 7 the following new subsection:
- 8 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. For purposes of this section,
- 9 "distributor" means any person who engages in the sale of
- 10 beverages in beverage containers to a dealer in this state,
- 11 as those terms are defined in section 123B.1, including any
- 12 manufacturer who engages in such sales.
- 13 Sec. 21. REPEAL. Chapter 455C, Code 2021, is repealed.
- 14 Sec. 22. EFFECTIVE DATE. This division of this Act takes
- 15 effect January 1, 2023.
- 16 DIVISION III
- 17 NEW BEVERAGE CONTAINER CONTROL LAW
- 18 Sec. 23. NEW SECTION. 123B.1 Definitions.
- 19 As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise
- 20 requires:
- 21 1. "Beverage" means wine as defined in section 123.3,
- 22 subsection 54, alcoholic liquor as defined in section 123.3,
- 23 subsection 5, beer as defined in section 123.3, subsection
- 24 7, high alcoholic content beer as defined in section 123.3,
- 25 subsection 22, canned cocktail as defined in section 123.3,
- 26 subsection 11, and mineral water, soda water, and similar
- 27 carbonated soft drinks in liquid form and intended for human
- 28 consumption.
- 29 2. "Beverage container" means any sealed glass, plastic, or
- 30 metal bottle, can, jar, or carton containing a beverage.
- 31 3. "Commission" means the alcoholic beverages commission
- 32 established in chapter 123.
- 33 4. "Consumer" means any person who purchases a beverage in a
- 34 beverage container for use or consumption.
- 35 5. "Dealer" means any person who engages in the sale of

- 1 beverages in beverage containers to a consumer.
- 2 6. "Division" means the alcoholic beverages division of the
- 3 department of commerce established in chapter 123.
- 4 7. "Redemption center" means a facility at which consumers
- 5 may return empty beverage containers and receive payment for
- 6 the refund value of the empty beverage containers.
- 7 Sec. 24. NEW SECTION. 123B.2 Refund values recycling
- 8 reimbursement.
- 9 1. a. A refund value of five cents shall be paid by a
- 10 consumer to a dealer on each beverage container sold in this
- 11 state by the dealer for consumption off the premises.
- 12 b. On a monthly basis, a dealer shall submit to the
- 13 department of revenue, in a form and manner determined by
- 14 the department, receipts indicating the number of beverage
- 15 containers sold by the dealer and the five-cent refund value
- 16 collected for each beverage container sold by the dealer
- 17 pursuant to paragraph "a". The department of revenue shall
- 18 credit monthly to the treasurer of state for deposit in the
- 19 refund value fund established in section 123B.8 the refund
- 20 value collected from dealers under this paragraph.
- 21 2. A consumer may redeem the refund value by returning
- 22 a beverage container to a redemption center. Upon return of
- 23 the empty beverage container, upon which a refund value has
- 24 been paid, to a redemption center and acceptance of the empty
- 25 beverage container by the redemption center, the redemption
- 26 center shall pay the amount of the refund value to the
- 27 consumer.
- 28 3. A redemption center shall dispose of beverage containers
- 29 by transporting or causing the transport of the beverage
- 30 containers to a recycling site.
- 31 4. On a monthly basis, a redemption center shall be
- 32 reimbursed by the division from the refund value fund
- 33 established in section 123B.8 the amount of refund value that
- 34 the redemption center has paid to consumers and the handling
- 35 fee. The division shall establish the handling fee by rule

- 1 in an amount that is one cent per beverage container, but
- 2 the division may establish accuracy standards to account for
- 3 discrepancies in the weight of recycled material and the number
- 4 of beverage containers the redemption center claims to have
- 5 been recycled.
- 6 Sec. 25. NEW SECTION. 123B.3 Refusal to accept containers.
- 7 A redemption center may refuse to accept any empty beverage
- 8 container that does not have stated on it a refund value as
- 9 provided under section 123B.4.
- 10 Sec. 26. NEW SECTION. 123B.4 Refund value stated on
- 11 container exceptions.
- 12 l. Each beverage container sold or offered for sale in
- 13 this state by a dealer shall clearly indicate the refund
- 14 value of the container by embossing or by a stamp, label, or
- 15 other method securely affixed to the container. The division
- 16 shall specify, by rule, the minimum size of the refund value
- 17 indication on the beverage containers and require registration
- 18 of the universal product code for each beverage container in a
- 19 format required by the division.
- 20 2. A person, except a distributor, shall not import
- 21 into this state a beverage container that does not have
- 22 securely affixed to the container the refund value indication.
- 23 This subsection does not apply under any of the following
- 24 circumstances:
- 25 a. For beverage containers containing alcoholic liquor as
- 26 defined in section 123.3, subsection 5, the total capacity of
- 27 the containers is not more than one quart or, in the case of
- 28 alcoholic liquor personally obtained outside the United States,
- 29 one gallon.
- 30 b. For beverage containers containing beer as defined
- 31 in section 123.3, subsection 7, the total capacity of the
- 32 containers is not more than two hundred eighty-eight fluid
- 33 ounces.
- 34 c. For all other beverage containers, the total capacity of
- 35 the containers is not more than five hundred seventy-six fluid

- 1 ounces.
- Subsections 1 and 2 do not apply to a refillable glass
- 3 beverage container that has a brand name permanently marked on
- 4 it and that has a refund value of not less than five cents,
- 5 to any other refillable beverage container that has a refund
- 6 value of not less than five cents and that is exempted by
- 7 the director under rules adopted by the commission, or to
- 8 a beverage container sold aboard a commercial airliner or
- 9 passenger train for consumption on the premises.
- 10 Sec. 27. NEW SECTION. 123B.5 Redemption centers.
- 11 To facilitate the return of empty beverage containers, any
- 12 person may establish a redemption center at which consumers may
- 13 return empty beverage containers and receive payment of the
- 14 refund value of such beverage containers.
- 15 Sec. 28. NEW SECTION. 123B.6 Rules.
- 16 The commission shall adopt, upon recommendation of the
- 17 division, rules necessary to carry out the provisions of this
- 18 chapter, subject to the provisions of chapter 17A.
- 19 Sec. 29. NEW SECTION. 123B.7 Penalties.
- 20 1. Except as provided in subsection 2, any person violating
- 21 the provisions of section 123B.2 or 123B.4, or a rule adopted
- 22 under this chapter, shall be guilty of a simple misdemeanor.
- 23 2. Any person who does any of the following acts is quilty
- 24 of a fraudulent practice under chapter 714:
- 25 a. Collects or attempts to collect the refund value on a
- 26 beverage container a second time, with the knowledge that the
- 27 refund value has once been paid by the redemption center to a
- 28 consumer.
- 29 b. Manufactures, sells, possesses, or applies a false or
- 30 counterfeit label or indication that shows or purports to show
- 31 a refund value for a beverage container, with intent to use the
- 32 false or counterfeit label or indication.
- 33 c. Collects or attempts to collect a refund value on
- 34 a container with the use of a false or counterfeit label
- 35 or indication showing a refund value, knowing the label or

- 1 indication to be false or counterfeit.
- d. Intentionally submits to the division a request for
- 3 reimbursement of refund value that does not accurately reflect
- 4 the number of beverage containers collected and recycled by a
- 5 redemption center for the period that the redemption center
- 6 seeks reimbursement.
- 7 3. As used in this section, "a false or counterfeit label
- 8 or indication means a label or indication purporting to show
- 9 a valid refund value that has not been initially applied as
- 10 authorized by a distributor.
- 11 4. Subsection 2, paragraph "a", does not apply to empty
- 12 beverage containers that are intended to be refillable
- 13 and are in a standard of condition to be refillable by the
- 14 manufacturer, notwithstanding any standard for sanitization.
- 15 Sec. 30. NEW SECTION. 123B.8 Refund value payment program
- 16 fund created.
- 17 1. The division shall establish and administer a refund
- 18 value payment program. The purpose of the program shall be to
- 19 administer payments of refund value to redemption centers after
- 20 the redemption centers accept empty beverage containers from
- 21 consumers. The program shall be administered in accordance
- 22 with rules adopted by the commission pursuant to chapter 17A.
- 23 2. A refund value fund is established in the state
- 24 treasury under the control of the division. The fund shall
- 25 consist of moneys deposited in the fund pursuant to section
- 26 123B.2. Moneys in the fund are appropriated to the division
- 27 for purposes designated in subsection 4. Notwithstanding
- 28 section 8.33, moneys in the fund that remain unencumbered or
- 29 unobligated at the close of a fiscal year shall not revert
- 30 but shall remain available for expenditure for the purposes
- 31 designated. Notwithstanding section 12C.7, subsection 2,
- 32 interest or earnings on moneys in the fund shall be credited
- 33 to the fund.
- 34 3. A bottle bill cash reserve account is established within
- 35 the refund value fund. Moneys in the refund value fund on July

- 1 1, 2024, shall be deposited in the account. The division shall
- 2 use moneys in the account in the event that the other moneys in
- 3 the refund value fund are insufficient to issue reimbursement
- 4 and handling fees to redemption centers. At the end of each
- 5 fiscal year, the account shall be replenished to the original
- 6 amount deposited on July 1, 2024, from the other moneys in the
- 7 refund value fund if such other moneys are available.
- 8 4. Moneys in the fund shall be used by the division for all
- 9 of the following purposes:
- 10 a. Issuing reimbursement of refund value to a redemption
- 11 center after the redemption center accepts empty beverage
- 12 containers from and pays the refund value to a consumer.
- 13 b. Issuing the handling fee to a redemption center for each
- 14 beverage container that a redemption center accepts from a
- 15 consumer.
- 16 c. Covering administrative costs to administer the refund
- 17 value payment program in an amount determined by the commission
- 18 by rule.
- 19 d. Annually transferring an amount of moneys to the taxpayer
- 20 relief fund established in section 8.57E that is equal to the
- 21 amount of unclaimed deposits at the end of the fiscal year
- 22 minus the amount necessary to cover administrative costs, the
- 23 amount necessary to replenish the bottle bill cash reserve
- 24 account, and the amount in the bottle bill cash reserve
- 25 account.
- 26 e. Replenishing the bottle bill cash reserve account when
- 27 necessary.
- 28 Sec. 31. NEW SECTION. 455D.9B Disposal of beverage
- 29 containers at sanitary landfill prohibited.
- 30 The final disposal of beverage containers, as defined in
- 31 section 123B.1, including the final disposal of beverage
- 32 containers that used to contain alcoholic liquor as defined in
- 33 section 123.3, subsection 5, by a redemption center, as defined
- 34 in section 123B.1, in a sanitary landfill is prohibited.
- 35 Sec. 32. EFFECTIVE DATE. This division of this Act takes

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1 effect January 1, 2023.
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- 2 EXPLANATION
- The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 5 Under current law, a consumer may return an empty beverage
- 6 container upon which a 5-cent refund value has been paid to a
- 7 dealer or a redemption center. When a distributor collects
- 8 empty beverage containers from a dealer, dealer agent, or
- 9 redemption center, the distributor reimburses the dealer,
- 10 dealer agent, or redemption center the refund value plus a
- 11 1-cent handling fee for each empty beverage container. Current
- 12 law also allows any person to establish a redemption center
- 13 that serves a dealer if it is approved by the department of
- 14 natural resources. Any person may also establish an unapproved
- 15 redemption center.
- 16 DIVISION I. This bill provides that a dealer may choose
- 17 to not accept beverage containers if a redemption center is
- 18 located within a 20-mile radius of the dealer. The bill
- 19 makes numerous changes throughout Code chapter 455C to change
- 20 instances of "dealer" to "participating dealer", remove
- 21 obsolete language, and stylistically and grammatically update
- 22 the Code chapter.
- 23 This division of the bill takes effect July 1, 2022.
- 24 DIVISION II. The bill repeals the current beverage
- 25 container control law (Code chapter 455C) on January 1, 2023,
- 26 and makes corresponding changes.
- 27 DIVISION III. The bill creates a new Code chapter 123B
- 28 to place beverage container control provisions under the
- 29 authority of the alcoholic beverages division (ABD) within
- 30 the department of commerce. Under the new beverage container
- 31 control provisions, a dealer shall submit to the department
- 32 of revenue on a monthly basis receipts indicating the number
- 33 of beverage containers sold by the dealer and the 5-cent
- 34 refund value collected for each beverage container sold by
- 35 the dealer. The department of revenue shall credit monthly

- 1 to the treasurer of state for deposit in the refund value
- 2 fund established in the bill the refund value collected
- 3 from dealers. A consumer may redeem the refund value by
- 4 returning an empty beverage container to a redemption center.
- 5 After payment of the refund value by a redemption center to
- 6 a consumer, the redemption center shall dispose of empty
- 7 beverage containers by transporting the beverage containers to
- 8 a recycling site. After a redemption center provides proof
- 9 of recycling, ABD shall reimburse the redemption center the
- 10 refund value paid to consumers and a handling fee provided by
- 11 rule. The reimbursement shall be paid from the refund value
- 12 fund established in the bill. This division of the bill does
- 13 not require a distributor to pick up beverage containers and
- 14 reimburse redemption centers.
- 15 The bill requires ABD to establish and administer a refund
- 16 value payment program for the purpose of administering payments
- 17 of refund value to redemption centers. The bill establishes
- 18 a refund value fund in the state treasury under the control
- 19 of the division. Moneys in the refund value fund may be used
- 20 for purposes of issuing refund value and the handling fee to a
- 21 redemption center, covering administrative costs to administer
- 22 the program, annually transferring moneys to the taxpayer
- 23 relief fund, and replenishing the bottle bill cash reserve
- 24 account established within the fund.
- 25 The bill requires ABD to require by rule registration of the
- 26 universal product code for each beverage container in a format
- 27 required by ABD. The bill requires the alcoholic beverages
- 28 commission, at the recommendation of ABD, to adopt rules to
- 29 carry out this division of the bill.
- 30 The bill provides penalty provisions primarily based on
- 31 simple misdemeanors and fraudulent practices in current Code
- 32 chapter 455C, but also creates the fraudulent practice of
- 33 intentionally submitting to ABD a request for reimbursement
- 34 of refund value that does not accurately reflect the number
- 35 of beverage containers collected and recycled by a redemption

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- 1 center for the period that the redemption center seeks
- 2 reimbursement.
- 3 This division of the bill takes effect January 1, 2023.